

1958

History

November 3. Flew from Seattle to Anchorage, Alaska, leaving Seattle at 8:30, arriving Anchorage 12 Midnight. I took the shorter route because I was tired. Perhaps should have taken the 7:30 flight, as it would have taken me over more scenic territory. However, I got some rest. I met with Weeks, Campbell, Evans and Cleworth to play around for the next few days. We had dinner with the Weeks.

November 4 - Anchorage

This morning at 9:00 A.M. Weeks, Cleworth and I had a conference with H. K. Idleman, Superintendent of District Schools, on school strategy. He presented a study on the district, of where schools are now being built, of where they will soon be built. The school population is increasing rapidly year by year.

We drove over Anchorage generally before lunch and then had lunch in the "Chart Room" in Westwood Hotel.

After lunch Miss Olive Fisher, Campbell, Weeks, Cleworth and I looked over three prospective new fields. Only the Nunaka Valley field east of Anchorage is in any sense ready for development. Property should be purchased in this field after more careful study as to location. The other two fields (southwest) are undeveloped. Perhaps property should be purchased soon.

At 4:00 P.M. we conferred with the City Planning Commission. Plans are being developed for proper zoning.

Cleworth and I had dinner with the Rev. Paul Evans.

At 8:00 P.M. I met with the Steering Committee at First Church.

The discussion centered around the 3 prospective new fields. The feeling expressed was that National Missions did not give them the support they should have.

Faith Church situation was discussed at length. The choice must be made between staying in the area and pursuing a Neighborhood House program, or relocating in perhaps the Nunaka Valley area.

November 5

Paul Evans drove Cleworth and me to Palmer to visit the Rev. and Mrs. Bert Rutan, of the United Protestant Church. Had lunch. The church building is in excellent shape, and apparently the pastor and his wife are doing a good job.

We visited the Presbyterian Hospital in Palmer. A remarkable building and operation.

We visited Rev. Claude E. Klaver, pastor at Wasilla, and Sunday School missionary. It is a rather primitive work. They have been on the field three weeks. Klaver doesn't impress me too highly, but I don't know him. Mrs. Klaver seems to have more drive. The manse needs much work to bring it to completion.

Had dinner with Rev. and Mrs. Lowell Campbell, pastor of Faith Church, Anchorage. The manse is a poor structure.

My impression of the Anchorage area is that there will be a continuous population growth here for many years to come. The ratio of school population, taking grades 1 and 12, is 4 to 1. No one has the answer on what statehood will mean to population growth, but doubtless it will have some effect upward. The big factor now is that certain ICC regulations make costs very high for many commodities. Another is that one shipping company has the monopoly and is protected by ICC. Still another is that at present there are not enough native manufacturing and natural resources to be shipped out; thus ships come up loaded and return empty. A part of this condition will be corrected

in the next three years, with the installation of Cook Harbor at Anchorage, where ships of all U. S. fleets and the fleets of all nations can stop to load and unload. Anchorage is on the direct route to the Orient by air and sea, and all airlines serving the Orient now stop. With the addition of shipping by sea, the cost of materials shipped should be greatly reduced. The harbor will be completed in about three years.

Better shipping facilities, thus lower construction costs and the advent of Statehood, should attract industry to this area, and there is every evidence that this will come about. This condition will likely mean the more rapid development of coal and iron mines in the interior. This development will not take place over night, but there is enough prospect to attract many hundreds of people in anticipation of likely development of shipping and industry.

Our Presbyterian churches, while good, need to be better, and strategic planning and development of certain areas needs to be done so as to maintain a strong position. First Church is well located and well equipped for its present ministry. Faith Church, in my judgment, should relocate, and Woodland Park should have some help to make its ministry more effective. Her educational plant needs to be renovated and finished. She has some 300 in Bible School, but equipment is poor. The community is developing and improving. Some help now would pay big dividends. Without some aid now I am afraid she will continue to struggle and be unable to project an adequate program.

Property in the Nunaka area should be purchased at once and a first unit erected soon. In my judgment, the former United Presbyterian plan for New Church Development should be inaugurated here to get the church on its feet

more quickly. Property should be purchased in two other areas for future development.

Other denominations are far more aggressive in Anchorage than our own - the Southern Baptists and Methodist Episcopal in particular. Southern Baptists are erecting large, well equipped buildings. The Methodist Episcopal Church is spending \$480,000 for church buildings and manses. The Episcopal and Lutheran churches are building attractive new buildings. The funds for these churches are coming from Mission Boards, not the people of Alaska. We, the Presbyterians, are following the old pattern by building with volunteer labor. The Baptists, Methodist Episcopal and Episcopalians and others are gaining while we are barely holding our own. The day is past in Anchorage when we say to people, "Come in and help us build our church buildings." The wisest strategy would be for us to aid Woodland Park to complete its plant, aid Faith to relocate or finance a Hospitality House program, and to purchase land and erect a first unit in Nunaka area.

November 6 - Thursday.

Spent a leisurely day. Brian and I had breakfast in the home of Mrs. Hoyt, a woman in First Church who is very missionary-minded. We had a delicious breakfast of sour dough pancakes. I went to the hotel while Brian attended a meeting. I had lunch with Ralph Weeks, and he took me for a beautiful ride through the mountains. We had dinner with the Weeks and boarded the plane for Fairbanks at 7:45 P.M., arriving at 9:15. John Stokes of College and John Bartholomew of Tok Junction met us and took us to the Nordale Hotel.

I met Joe Heckel and family. Joe is a Sunday School missionary along the Railbelt. There is need of a more adequate manse for him.

November 7 - Friday

John Stokes met us at the hotel and we all went to breakfast. We then took a ride over Fairbanks. There are a few places for church extension which will need to be watched for growth. Fairbanks and its metropolitan area now have about 38,000 exclusive of the military. Alaska is an armed camp; large military installations around Fairbanks.

We then drove to Big Delta, a mission on the Alaska Highway, some 100 miles east on the Alaska Highway. Rev. and Mrs. Bert Bingle are supplying in the absence of the missionary, Neil Munro. It is a hospitality center particularly for the families of servicemen stationed at Fort Greeley. We had intended to fly, but the ceiling was too low. Bert Bingle is a character. He is responsible for much of the work in Alaska. He also served as Sunday School missionary along the railroad.

Brian and I had dinner at the Hospitality House in Fairbanks. There are 18 girls there at present. This type of work is desperately needed in Fairbanks, with so many of the Eskimo girls coming in to find work.

November 8 - Friday

Brian and I took the plane for Barrow from Fairbanks at 7 A.M. The weather cleared shortly after take-off and the flight was a beautiful one, over a very rugged range of mountains. We landed in Barrow about 10 A.M.. John Chambers met us and had with him some very warm clothing, which we needed, as we rode in the back of an open truck for about five miles to the village.

We came to the manse and met Barbara and Sara Lynn (6 mos.) The Chambers have a nice home. After lunch we walked around the village. The Eskimoes live in rather primitive houses and their dogs are tied all around. The village has a central lighting plant, two theatres, about 3 stores, a modern government hospital, etc. It is located on the shores of the Arctic Ocean. The ice is already piled high on the shore.

The church building is a very good one, seating about 400. It has a recreation building used some for Sunday School.

The Eskimo population is some 1470, with about half employed by the DEW line, etc. There is still much hunting and fishing, for caribou and fish are the main items of their diet.

It was dark at 4 P.M. today.

The manse is old. It should be replaced. It is hard to heat. I have been cold since getting here, especially my feet.

November 9 - Sunday - Barrow

I'll never preach at a more northerly church. This church has a most active Sunday program. Services begin at 10 A.M., with a service conducted in the native tongue by the lay worker, Samuel Simmonds. About 200 people were present. The second service at 11 A.M. is in English, with full choir. I preached, using National Missions as a theme. About 350 attended; many children attended.

Bible School for adults and primary and junior children started at 2 P.M. and for young adults and junior high at 3 P.M. Over 300 attended Bible School. The Westminster Fellowship met at 6 P.M. and evening service at 7:30. The

evening service is an interpretive service. Brian Cleworth preached and Samuel Simmonds interpreted. Over 400 attended. It was a thrilling experience at the services.

The people sit in their parkas and the atmosphere has a fishy smell. The church is the greatest single influence in the village. There are many serious moral problems in the village. My impression is that the church should do more for the teen-agers. With no high school in the village, there is a great lack at the teen-age level.

November 10 - Monday - Barrow

Woke up this morning to -5°, but there was no wind. John Chambers had gotten out early to warm up the plane motor by putting an oil burner under the engine and inside a tarpaulin covering. John, as pilot, Brian and I got started to Wainwright about 10:30 A.M. The ceiling was about 700 or 800 feet, but when we had gotten about half way the clouds cleared and we could see the sun rising. We landed at Wainwright, an Eskimo village of about 200 people, at 11:30. One of the men met us and we rode into the village about a mile from where we landed, on a dog sled. The temperature was -25°, so the ride was a welcome one.

Roy Ahmaogak came out part way to meet us. We went to the manse and had lunch. Mrs. Ahmaogak speaks little English; he speaks it fluently. The manse has just been completed and is very comfortable. After lunch we visited the public school, the store and the church building. The manse and the church are about the best buildings in the village.

The village is different from Barrow in that all but two or three men make their living entirely from hunting and fishing. The housing is very primitive and there are dogs all over the place. Many of the men of the

village were out hunting caribou. It was reported that they had gotten something over 200 so far.

Roy Ahmaogak is an unusual fellow. He runs a very full church program and is perhaps the most influential man in the village. Our church has a membership of 136. If it were not for the work and witness of our church, the village would be entirely pagan.

The sun was hovering over the northern horizon. The bleak tundra and Arctic Ocean, now frozen over, was beautiful in the sunlight. It was the first sunshine I had seen in Alaska. The sun came over the horizon at 11 A.M. and was down at 2 P.M.

The work I have seen at Barrow and Wainwright has been revealing. A real gospel ministry is being carried on. There is one thing lacking, particularly at Barrow, and that is an adequate teen-age program. The girls are exploited who don't go on to Sheldon Jackson or other schools. The family life is not conducive to good morals. Large families living in one or two rooms tend to drive the girls to seek other things, and they fall easy prey to the white men on the base.

Liquor is the perennial problem. It is bootlegged by ACS personnel and from other white sources. We should strive to strengthen our ministry by every possible means. The people are a happy, fun-loving lot. Perhaps the church could encourage the native crafts.

The heating system in the Barrow manse and church should be improved. Other than that, the buildings are in fair shape.

November 11 - Tuesday

Brian and I left Barrow on Wien Airlines at 11 A.M. for Fairbanks. John Chambers and George Johnson saw us off. Shortly after leaving Barrow the sun broke out and the trip over the tundra and the Brooks range was beautiful. The Brooks Mountains were covered with snow. The winter sun shining on them was a sight I shall never forget. The pilot, at our request, flew over Anaktuvuk Pass so that we could see the little Eskimo village in which we have a small church. It is served two or three times a year by John Chambers, but services are conducted each Sunday by one of the elders. A new church building is just being finished. It was built by the people. Logs were landed from a distance of 40 miles by dog sled for the church.

The village is made up of 250 people who were a Nomadic group. They live from fishing in the river and lakes and by hunting. They are very religious. There is no school in the village. The young people were sent for a time to Fairbanks and other places, but when they came back the parents thought they had picked up bad habits and were disobedient, so they refused to send them out to school; hence they are growing up illiterate.

The Eskimo has accepted Christianity as his own. His primitive religious had to do with evil spirits, but when the white man came, he saw that his ways of doing things were better, so he turned away from his former religion. Christianity met his need and he accepted it.

When we got near Fairbanks, the weather had closed in and snow was falling. Cold weather was predicted, but it is not as cold tonight as was predicted.

When we got to the airport there was a reception in progress for Senator Kennedy, who was there in the interest of the Democrats and his own presidential

hopes. He came in while we were at the depot, but I didn't make an effort to shake hands with him. He is a clean-cut looking young man.

We looked over the First Church building. They have a new sanctuary, completed two years ago. It is an attractive sanctuary of a modern design.

John Stokes drove us over to look over the University of Alaska. It has a student body of 700 to 800. An ambitious building program is in progress. It has been making rapid strides in its development.

We had dinner with the Stokes and the Joe Heckels in the Stokes manse. Wild goose was the meat. It was a delicious dinner.

John took me over the church buildings (College Church). The church building is of log construction with a basement. The sanctuary is very worshipful. They have had a tragic experience with their educational building. Supposing the footers were on good ground, they built their building, but the structure of the soil was different from that upon which the church building stands. The footers in the permafreeze have sunk as the heat from the building has permeated, causing the building to sink on one side. It has been in use for two years and can't last more than four more years.

I came back to the hotel while Brian attended a meeting at First Church, which is now without a pastor.

November 12 - Wednesday

We left Fairbanks this morning on Pan American at 7 A.M. on a Super Constellation. It was another beautiful flight over snow covered mountains. The flight took us by way of Whitehorse, Canada, but because it was closed in we were unable to land, and came on to Juneau. We flew over the mountains

via Scagway and the trail to Dawson City, of gold rush fame. We thought we were going to be unable to land at Juneau, but the pilot, by skillful flying through the mountains and along the straits, brought us in. The Menden Hall Glacier just outside of Juneau showed up plainly and is a sight worth seeing. It is huge and majestic. Juneau is nestled at the foot of a high mountain range on the shores of the Strait. At the airport I met the acting Governor of Alaska.

Kenneth Smith, pastor of the Auke Bay Church, met us at the airport. He was a member of the Third U. P. Church of Pittsburgh. He and his wife are graduates of Sterling College. She is from Arkansas City and was a member of Orr's church.

Brian drove me over the town of Juneau. It is a town of 6500, built mostly on the hills.

I went to the State Office building to talk to Mr. Spartz of the Department of Child Welfare in Alaska about the Haines situation. He had nothing but the highest praise for Haines House and stated that it was the best institution of its kind in Alaska. There are 29 children's homes in the state. He recommended that it be maintained and that buildings be erected. He was high in the praise of William Wiley.

I also talked to Mr. Zinc of the district Child Welfare Agency. I got the same reaction from him. The problem of delinquent children both men minimized and stated that the situations were being well handled. They promised that part support will be given to a welfare worker appointed by the Board.

I also called at the office of Attorney Robert Boochecker on matters of Haines property, but he was at home recovering from a cold.

Had dinner with the Cleworths - another good dinner. Pork chops tasted delicious after eating wild meat for several days.

Tonight Brian and I met with the Session of the Auke Lake Church to discuss their proposed addition to the church - an educational unit. The Board, I feel, has not been fair in their dealing with the mission churches in Alaska. Some way must be found to secure building aid to get these churches on their feet.

I am staying in an apartment which is rented for the Christian education worker. She is working in the field.

This P.M. I looked over the Princeton Hall which is docked at Juneau. It is badly in need of an overhaul. The engine is in good shape, as is the hull. The boat leaks through the cabin and the deck. It is estimated that it will cost \$11,000 to repair the deck, recaulk it and to rebuilt the cabin.

A good case can be made for retaining the boat in service. The ministry is restricted enough with two boats in operation, and it seems the only way the outlying work can be done. The Anna Jackman is now serving the southern half of southeastern Alaska and the Princeton Hall the northern half.

November 13 - Thursday

We left Juneau this morning at 10:30 in a Grumman Goose for Haines. I rode in the co-pilot's seat, so I had an excellent view of the mountains. It was a bright, sunny day, so the snow-covered mountains stood out in all their glory. I had an excellent view of Menden Hall Glacier on the outskirts of Juneau. It is a huge ice floe. En route there were many other bank and

valley glaciers. From Juneau to Haines it is a great ice cap. The mountains on this trip are the most rugged and majestic I have ever seen. We landed at the Haines air strip in about 20 minutes. Bill Wiley and Hank Hartmann, the pastor of the Haines Church, were on hand to meet us and took us to Haines. Bill Wiley is superintendent. We stayed in the Executive's House.

We first inspected the building. I was shocked at the housekeeping in the boys' section. Dust on the baseboards was thick. Not enough supervision is given by the boys' supervisors. The girls' section was much better and showed good supervision.

The building itself is badly in need of renovation. The toilet and bath facilities in the boys' section are in bad shape. The plumbing generally is bad. The odor from the plumbing permeates the whole building. Something must be done with the building if the institution is to continue.

We met with the staff at 1 P.M. Bill Wiley talks too much and I had to stop him to get an expression from the staff. In the last year Haines House has been taking more Bureau of Juvenile Institutions children, mostly teen-agers. These are usually regarded as juvenile delinquents. There are 400 such young people in Alaska and only 40 can be placed. We have 11 in Haines. This is a change of policy from custodial care. This is creating a new condition.

The staff was quite frank in their expression that they were not prepared to care for this class of young person. The staff also stated that there was insufficient help and that they had too many to counsel properly. It is evident that some change should be made in staff arrangements.

After the meeting Hank Hartmann drove us to an Indian Village, Klukwan. We saw the church and some of the tribal houses. We attended the family dinner held at the church.

We were invited to the home of one of the members on the pretext of seeing some Indian relics. It turned out that all the public school Board, the superintendent and principal were there, which indicated to me that something was astir. The discussion soon came to the point - that is, the Haines House.

Generally the Board and superintendent and principal were worked up. The superintendent, in my judgment, had something less than average intelligence. The same could be said of the principal.

The condition is that Haines is a small town with all the small town phobias. Two girls had run away from Haines House and cause a great stir. The girls were suspended from school. The contention of the group was that the children from the Bureau of Juvenile Institutions were causing all manner of trouble in the school and community.

The fact is that the situation is far less serious than the group make out, but it is evident that the program must be revised at Haines.

We talked the situation over with Wiley and tried to point up some of his weaknesses. He took it well.

November 14 - Friday

In response to a wire from Tribus, I called Burke Riley. The conversation was on the tidelands. The city was willing to quit deed the tidelands with the condition that it have the right to extend the harbor breakwater. I talked to Searcy, who wants to lease 50 feet for a sales room and repair shop for boats. I don't think I favor it. Burke Riley should be dropped as representing the Board. He represents other interests. Mr. Schnable, also of the City Council,

advises that we should hold up the lease.

We flew back to Juneau and took another plane to Sitka, or at least started. About half way one motor conked out and we turned around and flew back to Juneau with one motor. Another smaller plane then flew us to Sitka in record time over the mountains.

We were met and brought to Sheldon Jackson Junior College. We sat in on a faculty and advisory meeting. I stayed at the home of the President, R. Rolland Armstrong. We attended a banquet of the Alaskan Brotherhood and then spent the evening visiting at the Armstrongs.

November 15 - Saturday

At 8:30 I met with the Advisory Committee of Sheldon Jackson. The special topic discussed with me was the need of a Student Union Building. In this kind of a situation I think there is real need for such a building and it should be high on the list of new buildings.

Armstrong took me over the whole plant. While there is much to be desired in the buildings, there has been real progress toward getting them into good shape. The work program this coming summer will bring others into shape. My impression is that under Armstrong the whole program of renovation and program is greatly improving. The Junior College has shown an increase in enrollment for the first time.

The immediate need is the renovation of the central heating plant. The building itself should be torn down and a new one of concrete block erected. The foundation and side walls of the plant to ground level seems sound. If a building with flat roof could be erected, it would meet the need. An automatic heating system should be installed and on a unit system.

In the afternoon I visited the Mt. Edgecomb School for natives. It is a huge layout.

I had dinner with the Armstrongs, attended a gym exhibition and then made preparation for Sunday morning sermon.

November 16 - Sunday

I preached in the First U. P. Church of Sitka, taking my text from Ps. 127. The response was good. Rev. William Gavin is the minister and is of Fundamentalist persuasion. There were about 400 in attendance. It was a mixed group of natives and whites. The students of Sheldon Jackson and faculty were there in force.

The church building is new, having been dedicated just 3 weeks ago. It is a beautiful sanctuary constructed of native lumber with pine panelling in the interior. There is an adjacent Christian Education unit which is quite adequate. The whole service was well done.

After dinner at the Gavins, we met in the school chapel for the dedication of the James H. Condit House, a new dormitory. Because of the rain, the whole service was held in the chapel. At the completion of the service an open house was held in the new dormitory.

The dormitory houses the students of the Junior College. It will ultimately become the Boys' Dormitory, but at present the boys occupy one half and the girls the other.

There are 23 Junior College students -- 19 freshmen and 4 sophomores. This is the largest freshman class the school has had. A systematic recruiting program was initiated which is beginning to show results.

The Armstrongs held a reception for me in their home at 5 P.M. to which faculty and advisory council were invited.

I attended the evening church service. Brian Cleworth preached. About 100 attended. A large part of the audience consisted of Sheldon Jackson students.

Short of sleep as I was, we sat up at Armstrongs and talked until after one.

November 17

I left Sitka for Juneau by plane at 10:30. The ceiling was very low so the pilot followed the straits all the way. Ken Smith met me at the airport and took me into Juneau to take Ellis Airlines (amphibian planes). As we had about two hours to wait, we went to lunch and then down to see the old gold mine.

At 2:30 P.M. I took off for Petersburg, arriving at 3:30. Rev. Ronald Snelling, the missionary here, met me and drove me over the village. It is a desolate place. Fishing is the chief source of income and it was very poor this year. This village was settled by Norwegian people and hence the Lutheran Church is strong.

Our mission is making slow progress. A christian education building is badly needed. While the church building is quite attractive, there is little Church School space and no space to carry on a week-day program.

Snelling took me to the Chamber of Commerce meeting and then to his home. Rev. William Zeiger, missionary on the Anna Jackman, and his wife came in and we had a fine visit.

November 18 - Tuesday

This has been a day of waiting for a weather break. I was invited to have breakfast with the Snellings at 8:30, and at 8:30 Ron rapped on my door. I hadn't wakened. After getting dressed I went with him to his home and to a delicious breakfast. The plane for Wrangel was scheduled to leave at 10:30, so Ron and Bill Zeiger drove me down to the wharf. I boarded; the plane took off, gained altitude, then turned around and beached. The weather had closed in and the pilot wouldn't risk going through. We were taken uptown to the depot where we waited for a weather break which we thought was not coming. Finally at 3 P.M. the snow storm ceased and the weather report for the area from Petersburg to Wrangel seemed safe enough for the pilot to take us. We took off about 3:30. We ran into some snow but were able to land at Wrangel in about 15 minutes.

Donald Schwab and his wife, pastor of the local church, and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Nelson, skipper of the Anna Jackman, met me. As the boat was tied at the same pier, we went there immediately. As we were to have dinner on the boat, the Schwabs took me for a drive over the village. Wrangel is a typical Southeast fishing village, drab and uninviting. It has a Japanese owned lumber mill which helps the economy of the village.

The Schwabs and Nelsons had dinner for me on the boat. It had been prepared for noon, when I should have arrived, but it was very good. We had roast venison and it was good.

After dinner Don Schwab took the women to a circle meeting and I stayed to visit with Nelson. We talked about the boat ministry. I spent the night on the boat.

The Anna Jackman is a beautiful boat, one well equipped for the ministry for which it is designed. It had been laid up for 10 days because of a broken oil pump. It was repaired, and if the weather hadn't cleared I would have ridden to Ketchikan on it today.

The boat has two diesel engines to drive it and an auxiliary engine to generate electricity. The cabin is a large one, with a spacious galley, dining area, etc. As many as thirty people can be placed on chairs for a worship service. It has bunks to accommodate 30+ people. It has the latest ship to shore or ship to ship radio, a radar, etc. It is about as well equipped as a boat should be. The Nelsons live on the boat. Mrs. Nelson instructs her two boys with their school work, using the Calvert system. Bill Zeiger lives in Petersburg and spends 3 weeks out of 4 on the boat and its ministry.

The boat visits lumber camps, small fishing villages, lighthouses, etc. Bill holds services, talks to people as persons and families, conducts and sets up Sunday Schools, etc. The stories Nelson told me of Zeiger's work were thrilling. The boat has paid for itself in service now.

November 19 - Wednesday

This has been another day of waiting. The Lord must have had a hand, for I made all connections with no time to spare.

This morning when I got up about 8:30, the weather was entirely closed in. Heavy snow was falling. About 10 there was a little break and the reports indicated clearing. At noon we learned that Juneau and area had cleared and that the plane would fly. My plane for Ketchikan was due at

2 P.M. It arrived shortly after and we were on our way at 2:15, docking at Ketchikan at 3 P.M. We were put on a small plane for Annette and landed at 3:30. The PAA for Seattle was waiting. I boarded at once and we took off. I was on my way home.

While waiting for the plane this morning, Don Schwab took me over more of the village and surrounding territory. I had lunch at the Schwab home.

The Schwabs have been in National Missions work for 25 years. They are doing a good job at Wrangell.

The Wrangell Church is the oldest Protestant church in Alaska. It was established by Sheldon Jackson in 1874. S. Hall Young followed him and served the church for a few years.

These were two giants. Both men really were fabulous.

HISTORY
A 1118

Alaska -- 586,000 square miles, 210,000 population. Rugged, inaccessible except by plane, comparatively little agricultural land. Natural resources -- gold, Iron ore, coal, oil, gas, lumber, etc. Likely little development until better transportation. Population now largely supported by the military. High hopes for development under statehood, but some years in future. A pioneer Presbyterian mission field opened up by Sheldon Jackson and followed immediately by S. Hall Young.

I. Presbytery of Yukon

1. Anchorage -- 90,000 approximately without military, a modern city.
 - 4 U. P. churches
 - Church extension opportunities
 - M.E. University to be built.
2. Palmer -- the heart of a rich agricultural area -- on the Alaskan Highway and Railroad.
3. Wasilla -- 14 miles from Palmer on the Railroad -- a developing area.
 - Small church served by Claude F. Klaver who also is Sunday School missionary along the Railroad.
4. Fairbanks -- 38,000, a frontier town. Population growth due to military. University of Alaska at Fairbanks, a developing school.
 - 2 churches - 1st and College
 - New church development opportunities
 - House of Neighborly Service

5. The ministry along the Railroad -- Joe Heckel missionary who lives in College, suburb of Fairbanks. This work carried on formerly by Bert Bingle, an unusual character. An effective missionary enterprise.

Big Delta, on Alaskan Highway and near a major military installation.

Church and Community House. Rev. Munroe missionary.

Tok -- on the Railroad and Alaskan Highway. Rev. John Bartholomew.

Visits settlements back from Highway, Sunday School missions.

Building difficulties in the area.

6. Point Barrow -- John Chambers pastor; George Johnson intern and

Samuel Simmonds native worker. Village 1,400 population.

Church membership 600. A fine program. Problems: alcohol, delinquency, especially among girls. John Chambers the pilot of missionary plane servicing outpost.

Wainwright -- approximately 300 population. Church membership 136.

Rev. Roy Ahmaogak native pastor. Few natives employed, live by allowance from government and by hunting and fishing.

7. Antovak Pass -- Village of approximately 200.

II. Southeast Alaska -- Presbytery of Alaska

1. The nature of the area, climate, population. The boat ministry through the area.

2. Juneau -- the capital. 2 churches. The home port of the Princeton Hall.

3. Haines -- Haines House, the Church.

4. Petersburg -- a fishing village, the home port of the Anna Jackman.

5. Wrangell -- Fishing and lumbering. Wrangell has the oldest church in Alaska, established in 1874 by Sheldon Jackson, followed by S. Hall Young.

6. Sitka -- a developing pulp industry.

Sheldon Jackson Junior College

KSEW

the Church.

7. Ketchikan and Metlakatla.

Conclusion

1. A developing and challenging mission field.
2. A fine corps of devoted ministers and missionaries.

